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PERPLEX. *adj.* [*perplex*, Lat. *perplexus*, Lat.] Intricate; difficult. *Perplexed* is the word in use.

How the foul directs the spirits for the motion of the body, according to the several animal exigents, is *perplex* in the theory.

PERPLEXEDLY. *adv.* [from *perplexed*.] Intricately; with involution.

PERPLEXEDNESS. *n. f.* [from *perplexed*.]

1. Embarrassment; anxiety.
2. Intricacy; involution; difficulty.

Obscurity and *perplexedness* have been cast upon St. Paul's Epistles from without.

PERPLEXITY. *n. f.* [*perplexité*, Fr.]

1. Anxiety; distraction of mind.

The fear of him ever since hath put me into such *perplexity*, as now you found me.

Perplexity not suffering them to be idle, they think and do, as it were, in a phrensy.

The royal virgin, which beheld from far,

In penive plight and *perplexity*,

Came running fast to greet his victory.

PERPLEXITY. *n. f.* [*perplexité*, Fr.]

Let him look for the labyrinth; for I cannot discern any, unless in the *perplexity* of his own thoughts.

PERPLEXITY. *n. f.* [*per* and *pato*, Latin.] The act of drinking largely.

PERQUISITE. *n. f.* [*perquisitus*, Lat.] Something gained by a place or office over and above the settled wages.

Tell me, perfidious, was it fit

To make my cream a *perquisite*,

And steal to mend your wages.

To an honest mind, the best *perquisites* of a place are the advantages it gives a man of doing good.

To what your lawful *perquisites* amount.

PERQUISITION. *n. f.* [*perquisitus*, Lat.] An accurate enquiry; a thorough search.

PERRY. *n. f.* [*poire*, Fr. from *poire*.] Cyder made of pears.

Perry is the next liquor in esteem after cyder, in the ordering of which, let not your pears be over ripe before you grind them; and with some sorts of pears, the mixing of a few crabs in the grinding is of great advantage, making perry equal to the redbreak cyder.

PERSECUTE. *v. a.* [*persecutus*, Fr. *persecutus*, Lat.]

1. To harass with penalties; to persecute with malignity. It is generally used of penalties inflicted for opinions.

I persecuted this way unto the death.

2. To persecute with repeated acts of vengeance or enmity.

They might have fallen down, being persecuted of vengeance, and scattered abroad.

For what offence the queen of heav'n began

To persecute so brave, to just a man!

3. To importune much: as, he persecutes me with daily solicitations.

PERSECUTION. *n. f.* [*persecution*, Fr. *persecutio*, Lat. from *persecute*.]

1. The act or practice of persecuting.

The Jews raised *persecution* against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them.

Heavy *persecution* shall arise

On all, who in the worship persevere

Of spirit and truth.

The deaths and sufferings of the primitive christians had a great share in the conversion of those learned Pagans, who lived in the ages of *persecution*.

2. The state of being persecuted.

Our necks are under *persecution*; we labour and have no rest.

Christian fortitude and patience had their opportunity in times of affliction and *persecution*.

PERSECUTOR. *n. f.* [*persecutor*, Fr. from *persecute*.] One who harasses others with continued malignity.

What man can do against them, not afraid,

Though to the death; against such cruelties

With inward consolations recompens'd;

And oft supported so, as shall amaze

Their proudest persecutors.

Henry rejected the pope's supremacy, but retained every corruption besides, and became a cruel persecutor.

PERSEVERANCE. *n. f.* [*perseverance*, Fr. *perseverantia*, Lat. This word was once improperly accented on the second syllable.] Perseverance in any design or attempt; steadiness in pursuits; constancy in progress. It is applied alike to good and ill.

The king becoming graces,

Bounty, *perseverance*, mercy, lowliness;

I have no relish of them.

Perseverance keeps honour bright:

To have done, is to hang quite out of fashion,

Like rusty mail in monumental mockery.

They hate repentance more than *perseverance* in a fault.

PER

Wait the seasons of providence with patience and *perseverance* in the duties of our calling, what difficulties soever we may encounter.

Patience and *perseverance* overcome the greatest difficulties.

And *perseverance* with his batter'd shield.

PERSEVERANT. *adj.* [*perseverant*, Fr. *perseverant*, Lat.] Persevering; constant.

TO PERSEVERE. *v. n.* [*persevere*, Lat. *perseverare*, Fr. This word was anciently accented less properly on the second syllable.] To persist in an attempt; not to give over; not to quit the design.

But my rude musick, which was wont to please

Some dainty ears, cannot with any skill

The dreadful tempest of her wrath appease,

Nor move the dolphin from her stubborn will;

But in her pride the doth *persevere* still.

Thrice happy, if they know

Their happiness, and *persevere* upright!

Thus beginning, thus we *persevere*;

Our passions yet continue what they were.

To *persevere* in any evil course, makes you unhappy in this life, and will certainly throw you into everlasting torments in the next.

PERSEVERINGLY. *adv.* [from *persevere*.] With perseverance.

TO PERSIST. *v. n.* [*persist*, Lat. *persistere*, Fr.] To persevere; to continue firm; not to give over.

Nothing can make a man happy, but that which shall last as long as he lasts; for an immortal soul shall *persist* in being not only when profit, pleasure and honour, but when time itself shall cease.

If they *persist* in pointing their batteries against particular persons, no laws of war forbid the making reprisals.

PERSISTENCE. *n. f.* [from *persist*.] Persistence seems more in good or bad.

1. The state of persisting; steadiness; constancy; perseverance

The love of God better can confit with the indeliberate commissions of many sins, than with an allowed *perseverance* in any one.

2. Obstinacy; obduracy; contumacy.

Thou think'st me as far in the devil's book, as thou and Falstaff, for obduracy and *perseverance*.

PERISTIVE. *adj.* [from *persist*.] Steady; not receding from a purpose; persevering.

The protractive trials of great Jove,

To find *perceptive* constancy in men.

PERSON. *n. f.* [*personae*, Fr. *persona*, Lat.]

1. Individual or particular man or woman.

A *person* is a thinking intelligent being, that has reason and reflection, and can consider itself as itself, the same thinking thing, in different times and places.

2. Man or woman considered as opposed to things, or distinct from them.

A zeal for *persons* is far more easy to be perverted, than a zeal for things.

3. Human Being; considered with respect to mere corporal existence.

'Tis in her heart alone that you must reign;

You'll find her *person* difficult to gain.

4. Man or woman considered as present, acting or suffering.

If I am traduc'd by tongues which neither know

My faculties nor *person*;

'Tis but the fate of place, and the rough brake

That virtue must go through.

The rebels maintained the fight for a small time, and for their *persons* shewed no want of courage.

5. A general loose term for a human being; one; a man.

Be a *person's* attainments ever so great, he should always remember, that he is God's creature.

6. One's self; not a representative.

When I purposed to make a war by my lieutenant, I made declaration thereof to you by my chancellor; but now that I mean to make a war upon France in *person*, I will declare it to you myself.

The king in *person* visits all around,

Comforts the sick, congratulates the found,

And holds for thrice three days a royal feast.

7. Exterior appearance.

For her own *person*,

It beggar'd all description.

8. Man or woman represented in a fictitious dialogue.

All things are lawful unto me, faith the apostle, speaking, as it seemeth, in the *person* of the christian gentile for

the maintenance of liberty in things indifferent.

These tables Cicero pronounced under the *person* of Crassus, were of more use and authority than all the books of the philosophers.

9. Character.

From his first appearance upon the stage, in his new *person* of a sycophant or juggler, instead of his former *person* of a prince,

PER

prince, he was exposed to the derision of the courtiers and the common people, who flocked about him, that one might know where the owl was, by the flight of birds.

He hath put on the *person* not of a robber and a murderer, but of a traitor to the state.

10. Character of office.

I then did use the *person* of your father;

The image of his power lay then in me:

And in th' administration of his law,

While I was busy for the commonwealth,

Your highness pleased to forget my place.

How different is the same man from himself, as he sustains the *person* of a magistrate and that of a friend.

11. [In grammar.] The quality of the noun that modifies the verb.

Dorus the more blushed at her smiling, and she the more smiled at his blushing; because he had, with the remembrance of that plight he was in, forgot in speaking of himself the third *person*.

If speaking of himself in the first *person* singular has so various meanings, his use of the first *person* plural is with greater latitude.

PERSONABLE. *adj.* [from *person*.]

1. Handsome; graceful; of good appearance.

Were it true that her son Nimias had such a stature, as that Simiramis, who was very *personable*, could be taken for him; yet it is unlikely that she could have held the empire forty-two years after by any such subtilty.

2. [In law.] One that may maintain any plea in a judicial court.

PERSONAGE. *n. f.* [*personage*, Fr.]

1. A considerable person; man or woman of eminence.

It was a new fight fortune had prepared to those woods, to see these great *personages* thus run one after the other.

It is not easy to research the actions of eminent *personages*, how much they have been misled by the envy of others, and what was corrupted by their own felicity.

2. Exterior appearance; air; stature.

Between our statues, she hath urg'd his height;

And with her *personage*, her tall *personage*,

She hath prevail'd with him.

The lord Sudley was fierce in courage, courtly in fashion, in *personage* stately, in voice magnificent, but somewhat empty of matter.

3. Character assumed.

The great diversion is masking: the Venetians, naturally grave, love to give into the follies of such seasons, when disguised in a false *personage*.

4. Character represented.

Some persons must be found out, already known by history, whom we may make the actors and *personages* of this fable.

PERSONAL. *adj.* [*personalis*, Fr. *personalis*, Lat.]

1. Belonging to men or women, not to things; not real.

Every man so termed by way of *personal* difference only.

I know no *personal* cause to spurn at him;

But for the general.

It could not mean, that Cain as elder had a natural dominion over Abel, for the words are conditional; if thou dost well, and so *personal* to Cain.

Publick reproofs of sin are general, though by this they lose a great deal of their effect; but in private conversations the application may be more *personal*, and the proofs when so directed come home.

2. Present; not acting by representative.

The fav'nites that the absent king

In deputation left,

When he was *personal* in the Irish war.

3. Exterior; corporal.

This herock constancy determined him to desire in marriage a princess, whose *personal* charms were now become the least part of her character.

4. [In law.] Something moveable; something appendant to the person, as money; not real, as land.

5. [In grammar.] A personal verb is that which has all the regular modification of the three persons; opposed to impersonal that has only the third.

PERSONALITY. *n. f.* [from *personal*.] The existence or individuality of any one.

Person belongs only to intelligent agents, capable of a law, and happiness and misery: this *personality* extends itself beyond present existence to what is past, only by consciousness, whereby it imputes to itself past actions, just upon the same ground that it does the present.

PERSONALLY. *adv.* [from *personal*.]

1. In person; in presence; not by representative.

Approval not only they give, who *personally* declare their assent by voice, sign or act, but also when others do it in their names.

I could not *personally* deliver to her

What you commanded me, but by her woman

I sent your message.

There are many reasons, why matters of such a wonderful nature should not be taken notice of by those Pagan writers, who lived before our Saviour's disciples had *personally* appeared among them.

2. With respect to an individual; particularly.

She bore a mortal hatred to the house of Lancaster, and *personally* to the king.

3. With regard to numerical existence.

The converted man is *personally* the same he was before, and is neither born nor created a-new in a proper literal sense.

TO PERSONATE. *v. a.* [from *persona*, Latin.]

1. To represent by a fictitious or assumed character, so as to pass for the person represented.

This lad was not to *personate* one, that had been long before taken out of his cradle, but a youth that had been brought up in a court, where infinite eyes had been upon him.

2. To represent by action or appearance; to act.

Herself a while the lays aside, and makes

Ready to *personate* a mortal part.

3. To pretend hypocritically, with the reciprocal pronoun.

It has been the constant practice of the Jesuits to send over emissaries, with instructions to *personate* themselves members of the several sects amongst us.

4. To counterfeit; to feign.

Pietty is opposed to that *personated* devotion, under which any kind of impiety is disguised.

Thus have I played with the dogmatist in a *personated* scepticism.

5. To resemble.

The lofty cedar *personates* thee.

6. To make a representative of, as in picture.

Whole eyes are on this sovereign lady fixt,

One do I *personate* of Timon's frame,

Whom fortune with her iv'ry hand waits to her.

7. To describe.

I am thinking, what I shall say; it must be a *personating* of himself; a satyr against the softness of prosperity.

I will drop in his way some obscure epistles

Of love, wherein, by the colour of his beard, the

Shape of his leg, the manner of his gait, the

Expressure of his eye, forehead and complexion,

He shall find himself most feelingly *personated*.

PERSONATION. *n. f.* [from *personate*.] Counterfeiting of another person.

This being one of the strangest examples of a *personation* that ever was, it deserveth to be discovered and related at the full.

PERSONIFICATION. *n. f.* [from *personify*.] Personification; the change of things to persons; as,

Confusion heard his voice.

TO PERSONIFY. *v. a.* [from *person*.] To change from a thing to a person.

PERPERSPECTIVE. *n. f.* [*perspectif*, Fr. *perspectiva*, Lat.]

1. A glass through which things are viewed.

If it tend to danger, they turn about the *perspective*, and shew it so little, that he can scarce discern it.

It may import us in this calm, to hearken to the storms raising abroad; and by the best *perspectives*, to discover from what coast they break.

You hold the glass, but turn the *perspective*,

And farther off the lessen'd object drive.

Faith for reason's glimmering light shall give

Her immortal *perspective*.

2. The science by which things are ranged in picture, according to their appearance in their real situation.

Medals have represented their buildings according to the rules of *perspective*.

3. View; vista.

Lofty trees, with sacred shades,

And *perspectives* of pleasant glades,

Where nymphs of brightest form appear.

PERPERSPECTIVE. *adj.* Relating to the science of vision; optick; optical